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1. The amendment filed on August 11, 2010 has been entered.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Adnan H. Bohri on September 7, 2010.

In the claims:

(a) Amend claim 6 as seen below:

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The rotary knob as claimed in claim 5, wherein there is, between the external cylindrical flange of the body and the cup, an annular space [[16]] stepped with respect to the cup and ~~able~~ configured to house a sealing device.

(b) Amend claim 7 as seen below:

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The rotary knob as claimed in claim 6, wherein the hand grip [[(20)]] has a head [[(21)]] provided with a reentrant annular rim [[(26)]], the annular space [[(16)]] houses ~~on the one hand~~ the annular rim [[(26)]] and ~~on the other hand~~ a ring [[(40)]] with a cylindrical skirt [[(42)]], a first radial annular interstice [[(16a)]] is provided between the flange [[(12)]] and the annular rim [[(26)]] and a second radial annular interstice [[(16b)]] is provided between the annular rim [[(26)]] and the cylindrical skirt [[(42)]], the two interstices [[(16a, 16b)]] in series forming a sealing chicane.

(c) Amend claim 9 as seen below:

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Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The rotary knob as claimed in claim 6, wherein, when the cup [(15)] houses a torsion spring [(R')], a chicane sealing device [(25)] is provided between the cylindrical flange [(12)] of the body and comprises a skirt of the grasping head [(21)] and an intermediate cylindrical flange [(17)] of the body separating the cup [(15)] from the annular space [(16)].

(d) In claim 10, line 19, replace “that” with “a diameter”.

4. Claims 1-10 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance: claims 1-10 are allowed because the closest prior art Duncan (US 3,247,349) does not teach or suggest the limitations, *inter alia*, “at least one axially moving slider (11) disposed *around* the cam surfaces of the driving part (50)” (emphasis added) in claim 1, or the limitations recited in claim 5 that are incorporated in new claim 10.

As noted, Applicant’s cam surface is defined by the outer surface of the driving part 50 as seen in FIGS. 2 and 3. In the instant case, Duncan’s slider 14 is in contact with the conical center portion 49 of the pressure plate 38 as seen in FIGS. 4 and 6 (Duncan 3:22-34). Thus, Duncan’s slider 14 does not surround Duncan’s cam surfaces 32-34 as claimed in claim 1. If one modifies Duncan’s slider 14 such that Duncan’s slider 14 is around (surrounds) Duncan’s cam surfaces 32-34, one would destroy Duncan’s mechanism and render it to be inoperative for its intended design.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. The drawings filed on August 11, 2010 are acceptable subject to correction of the informalities indicated on the attached "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-948. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Desaphie et al. (cup 104).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vinh T. Luong whose telephone number is 571-272-7109. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Ridley can be reached on 571-272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Vinh T Luong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3656